

REMARKS

Claims 18-29 and 31 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-17 and 30 were cancelled by Examiner's Amendment dated July 23, 2009. Subsequently, in an Examiner's Amendment dated September 4, 2009, claims 28 and 29 were cancelled. In a telephone conversation between the Examiner and Applicants' representative, the Examiner stated that claims 28 and 29 were cancelled because they were dependent on cancelled base claims, in particular, cancelled base claims 16 and 14, respectively. The Examiner stated that claims 28 and 29 could be amended to remove the dependency on the cancelled claims using an amendment under 37 CFR 1.312. Applicants submit that removing the dependency on claims 16 and 14 from claims 28 and 29, respectively, renders amended claims 28 and 29 allowable.


Accordingly, by this amendment, Applicants wish to amend Claims 28 and 29 to remove the dependency on cancelled claims 16 and 14, respectively. The subject matter of cancelled claim 16 has been incorporated into claim 28, and the subject matter of cancelled claim 14 has been incorporated into claim 29. Thus amended claims 28 and 29 are not dependent on any cancelled claims, and no new matter has been added to the application by the amendment to claims 28 and 29.

For the foregoing reasons, claims 18-29 and 31 are considered allowable. A Notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If any questions remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE

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By: 
Allyn B. Rhodes
Registration No. 56,745

2801 Slater Road, Suite 120
Morrisville, NC 27560-8477
Phone: 919.481.1111